

Application No. 09/619,614

Reply to Office Action of April 1, 2003

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 5-7, 12-14 and 17-26 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-4, 8-11 and 15-16 have been canceled. Claims 5, 6, 12, 13 and 17-20 have been amended and Claims 21-26 have been added by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-4, 8-11 and 15-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Young; Claims 5 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Young; Claims 6, 7, 13 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Young in view of Hartigan; and Claims 17-20 were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. In light of this indication, Claims 17-20 have been rewritten in independent form. Further, Claims 5 and 6 have been amended to depend on Claim 17 (Claim 7 depends on Claim 6), and Claims 12 and 13 have been amended to depend on Claim 18 (Claim 14 depends on Claim 13). Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted Claims 5-7 and 12-14 are also allowable.

In addition, new Claims 21-26 have been added to set forth the invention in a varying scope. In particular, new Claims 21-26 are the same as Claims 5-7 and 12-14, but depend on either Claims 19 and 20, which are rewritten in independent form.

In addition, it is respectfully requested this amendment be entered as no new issues have been raised. In particular, 6 claims have been added and 10 claims have been canceled. Thus, the number of claims added is less than the number of claims canceled.

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Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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